

REMARKS

A telephone interview between Examiners Grant and Wilder and Dennis Smid (one of the applicant's undersigned attorneys) was held on July 11, 2006. The applicant and Mr. Smid wish to thank the Examiners for their time and consideration for such interview.

Claims 2-5, 7-10, and 12-15, and amended claims 1, 6, and 11 are in this application.

A final Office Action issued in the present case on January 13, 2006. In such final office action, claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al. (U.S. 5,585,838) in view of Alexander et al. (U.S. 6,177,931 B1); claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al. in view of Alexander et al. and further in view of Borden IV et al. (U.S. 6,857,128 B1); and claims 4, 9, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler et al. in view of Alexander et al. and further in view of Lemons (U.S. 6,481,011 B1). An Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 was mailed on April 13, 2006 in response to the January 13 Final Office Action. It is hereby requested that such April 13 Amendment not be entered.

Each of the independent claims in the present application (that is, claims 1, 6, and 11) has been amended as discussed during the July 11 interview. Further during the July 11 interview, Examiner Wilder indicated that such changes would overcome above rejections based on the applied combination of references.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that

independent claims 1, 6, and 11 along with the claims dependent therefrom (i.e., claims 2-5, 7-10, and 12-15) are distinguishable from the applied combinations of references. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the above rejections of the present claims be withdrawn.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: July 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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